

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 010315-180

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
Anette KARLSSON et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: Herewith )  
For: METHOD FOR ELIMINATING )  
DETRIMENTAL SUBSTANCES IN )  
A PROCESS LIQUID )  
)

6/B  
D/B.  
8-21-02

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendment.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel Claims 1-17.

Please add the following new Claims 18-36.

18. (New) A method for inactivating detrimental substances in a process liquid comprising said detrimental substances, suspended material, and metal ions comprising hydroxide builders, said method comprising:

adding to the process liquid carbon dioxide in an amount sufficient to:

primarily form bicarbonate ions ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ) having a pH-buffering effect;